



THE ACUTE NEWSLETTER

Please Note: The ACUTE office address is ACUTE, Department of English, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, S7N 0W0, and the telephone number is (306) 966-5517. Len Findlay (President) 966-5506 and Terry Matheson (Secretary-Treasurer) 966-5490.

ACUTE EXECUTIVE 1989-90

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|---|----------------------------------|
| President | Len Findlay (Saskatchewan) |
| President-Elect | Shirley Neuman (Alberta) |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Terry Matheson (Saskatchewan) |
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SEPTEMBER 1989

TABLE OF CONTENTS

OFFICE ADDRESS AND TELEPHONE

ACUTE EXECUTIVE 1989-90

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

1990 CONFERENCE AT VICTORIA

CFH HIGHLIGHTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALLS FOR PAPERS

NEWS OF MEMBERS

ACUTE CALL FOR PAPERS

MEMBERSHIP FORM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you will see from the CFH Highlights described below, we are about to enter a period of review in our relations with SSHRCC and it is imperative that we be well prepared for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. We need to demonstrate once again that we are a healthy, frugal, and resourceful association with a loyal and productive membership, a first-rate learned journal, and an appropriate agenda.

The ACUTE Executive needs

your help, if we are to make an effective case for the continuing importance of our activities and the need for SSHRCC to support them adequately. You can assist in the following ways:

1. Renew your membership in ACUTE
2. Support your local ACUTE representative in the effort to recruit new members and to persuade former members to rejoin ACUTE.
3. Respond as soon and as fully as you can to Shirley Neuman or myself with information that might help us lobby effectively on behalf of ACUTE and ESC.
4. Re-read my comments on ACUTE funding in the June Newsletter and then communicate your concerns to SSHRCC.

1990 CONFERENCE

The 1990 Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 20 to 23 at the University of Victoria. The Call for Papers is enclosed. Since papers are vetted anonymously, members must be sure that their names do not appear anywhere in their papers. Submissions must include two copies of the paper, along with a self-addressed envelope with sufficient return postage. The deadline for submissions is November 15, 1989.

As was the case last year, only completed or "substantially completed" papers, not abstracts, will be accepted. Papers of varying lengths may be submitted, but a 20-22 page paper may have to be reduced in length if the vettors think it would work best in a multi-paper session. We will try to strike a balance between single-paper and multi-paper sessions.

There will be no special emphasis for the 1990 Conference. We invite papers on all topics and periods and we are open to all critical and theoretical

approaches. The Executive will attempt to schedule special and regular sessions in the most effective and stimulating sequence possible.

It seems certain that heavy demands will be made upon our Travel Grant for the Victoria Conference and everyone likely to attend is urged to seek travel assistance from his/her own institution. In the meantime, we will continue to work on new guidelines for travel assistance.

Please note: the deadline for all regular submissions is November 15.

ACUTE SPECIAL SESSIONS

Gay Male Criticism. Abstracts of papers that deal with the subject from an historical or a theoretical perspective are welcome. Submissions to: Robert K. Martin, Department of English, Concordia University, 7141 Sherbrooke St., W., Montreal, Quebec, H4B 1R6. Deadline: November 15, 1989.

The Fantastic and 19th C. Short Fiction. The historical applicability of Todorov and other theorists of the fantastic, and close readings of specific stories, especially those by Hawthorne and Poe. Two-page proposals or ten-page papers to Dr. Tracy Ware, Dept. of English, Bishop's University, Lennoxville, Quebec, J1M 1Z7, by December 1.

Reader-Response Criticism: Theory and Practice. Papers may deal with any aspect of negotiations between subjective response and community-based knowledge, especially those techniques and examples that have proven effective in the classroom. Abstracts of 15 minute papers and

brief descriptions of participants to Stephen Bonnycastle, Department of English, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, by December 1.

Words and Music. Analyses of some aspect of the interrelationship between literary and musical activity from a primarily literary point of view. Papers which analyze song, the libretto, metrical, prosodic, or rhetorical problems associated with music-text relationships, composers' attitudes toward literature or writers' attitudes toward music are particularly encouraged. Completed or substantially completed (20-minute) papers should be submitted by November 15 to Daniel Fischlin, 112 Wallis, Department of English, Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario, K9J 7B8.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE CANADIAN FEDERATION FOR THE HUMANITIES, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, JUNE 1989.

Changes to SSHRCC Grants Programs:

The Courtney report on the reorganization of the Major Grants programs has been the subject of a considerable number of representations to SSHRCC on the part of the Federation. Early drafts of the report discussed eliminating peer evaluation of grant applications and replacing funding for specific projects with funding for three years based on the applicant's "track record" in research. Partly in response to vigorous representations on the part of the Federation, these proposals have now been modified as follows: 1) peer evaluation of major grant applications will be retained; 2) a portion of grant funds will be awarded for three-year research programs, the decision about the grant to be more heavily weighted in favour of

"track record" than of a specific project; 3) to enable younger scholars or scholars who have been out of the profession and who may not have a competitive "track record" to participate in the granting program, a portion of the funding will be retained for "project" applications, the decision to be more heavily weighted in favour of the "project" than of the "track record." The changes will take place in the competition for which Fall 1990 is the deadline.

SSHRCC has also announced a new strategic grants program of interest to the humanities, in response to the CFH submission Towards a Canadian Research Strategy in Applied Ethics. The program will dispense at least \$5 million over the next five years. The parameters of the program and conditions of application will be available from SSHRCC in the fall of 1989. Individual and collaborative projects by humanists are encouraged.

Travel to Learned Societies

Meetings: Travel funds, provided by SSHRCC, have until now been disbursed to Societies by the Federation. Beginning with 1990, SSHRCC has reclaimed the function of disbursement.

Aid to Scholarly Publications

Program: At its June meeting the Board passed the recommendations of its Committee on Inter-Disciplinarity that two new committees be established in the ASPP program: 1) for inter-disciplinarity; and 2) for Women's Studies. Applicants to the program will be able to choose which committee they wish their manuscript to be evaluated by; e.g., Canadian literature, or English literature, or Women's Studies.

The maximum publication grant

available has been raised from \$8300 to \$8600 per application. The present 60% Humanities/40% Social Sciences division in the funding of manuscript publication will be maintained until Fall 1989.

The Financial Plight of ACUTE and ESC: The Federation is taking as a serious concern the fact that Societies who support professional journals are placed in a "double jeopardy" situation by new SSHRCC regulations which reduce funding to the Society by the amount that the Society raises from members to fund its journal. The Executive Director has undertaken to speak in her most persuasive manner with Denis Croux of SSHRCC about proposals to remedy both the short-term and long-term problems of this funding policy which is placing nearly impossible burdens on the finances of both ACUTE and English Studies in Canada. Moreover, the January 1990 Board of Directors meeting of the Federation will be entirely given over to the issue of funding of Societies and journals with the aim of helping us to make the strongest possible representation of our needs to SSHRCC when our funding comes up for review in January 1991 and of enabling us and the Federation to lobby effectively in the months intervening between the meeting and the renewal of our application to SSHRCC. Society members need to be well-briefed for this meeting, particularly about arguments for the quality of English Studies in Canada and about evidence for its reputation abroad. If you can help provide either, or any other useful information, please contact either Len Findlay (Saskatchewan), who is the 1989-90 ACUTE representative to the Federation, or Shirley Neuman (Alberta) who is on the

Federation's Board of Directors and Executive Council 1989-90.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The special issue of CANADIAN POETRY dedicated to the memory of Charles R. Steele is now available through the Department of English, University of Western Ontario, London, N6A 3K7 (\$6, including postage). In addition to a memorial tribute to Chuck, the issue contains contributions by several of his friends and colleagues, including J.M. Kertzer, I.S. MacLaren, Mary Lu MacDonald, and Carol W. Fullerton.

Subscriptions to the current five-year (1987-1992), ten-issue (Nos. 21-30) cycle of THE MALCOLM LOWRY REVIEW are now invited: \$25 for individuals, \$50 for institutions. Two double issues, Nos. 21-22 (165 pp.) and Nos. 23-24 (167 pp.) are already available. Cheques payable to the "Department of English, Wilfrid Laurier University" should be sent c/o Editor, The Malcolm Lowry Review, Department of English, Wilfrid Laurier University, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3C5.

MOSAIC would like to inform its avant garde audience and potential contributors that it is currently one of a select group of journals participating in a new MLA on-line data retrieval project. Entitled Research-in-Progress Database (RIPD), the project entails the computerized listing (together with name of author, abstract, and key terms) of an essay accepted for publication. In this way, the respective author can immediately "patent" his/her ideas, as it were, just as researchers are able to know in advance what scholarship is forthcoming in a given area.

THE NEW QUARTERLY is organizing a conference on Mennonite Writers May 10-13, 1990 at Conrad Grebel College, University of Waterloo. For information, please write to: Conference on Mennonite Writers c/o The New Quarterly, English Language Proficiency Program, The University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1.

F. E. L. Priestley Memorial Fund. After the death of Professor F. E. L. Priestley last year, a small group of his former students and colleagues agreed to form a committee to seek funds to endow a program at University College which would serve as a fitting memorial to him. The F. E. L. Priestley Memorial Fund is intended to establish a fund from which the interest will be used to bring an outstanding scholar in the history of ideas to University College each year. Members of ACUTE are invited to support the F. E. L. Priestley Memorial Fund by sending a cheque payable to the "University of Toronto, University College, in trust for the F. E. L. Priestley Memorial Fund," to the Director of Development, Department of Development, University of Toronto, Toronto, M5S 1A1.

CALLS FOR PAPERS

THE BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA/LA SOCIÉTÉ BIBLIOGRAPHIQUE DU CANADA will be holding its annual meeting at the Learned's in Victoria in 1990. A call for papers is issued, the subjects of which should be some aspect of the book--bibliography, analytical, descriptive or textual; the history of printing or publishing; or the transmission of the text. Papers should be approximately 45 minutes long, and may be considered for publication in Papers/Cahiers, the Society's

refereed journal. For information write to Sandra Alston, Book Selection Department, University of Toronto Library, St. George Campus, Toronto, M5S 1A5.

THE JOSEPH CONRAD SOCIETY Annual Conference (U.K.): 5-8 July 1990. To be held at Canterbury. Though open papers are welcome, the conference will attempt to focus on Conrad's Edwardian and Continental contexts. Tours to various Conrad sites in the area will be arranged. For further information or to submit an abstract, contact: Dr. Keith Carabine, Department of English, Keynes College, University of Kent, Canterbury, England.

MOSAIC announces the topics of two future special issues. One will be concerned with Literature and Emergent Countries, with a particular focus on the Caribbean and indigenous literary modes; the other will embrace all aspects of Literature and Food (nutrition, diet, eating disorders, ethnic tastes and stereotyping, restaurants as settings, etc.). Deadlines for submissions and further details will be announced later. Current queries should be addressed to:

Dr. Evelyn J. Hinz
Editor, MOSAIC
208 Tier Building
University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, R3T 2N2

THE NEW QUARTERLY is planning a special issue on Canadian Mennonite writers for spring of 1990. We are interested in writers nurtured in the Mennonite tradition whether or not that heritage is a prominent theme in their work. We are asking for submissions of poetry, short fiction, or excerpts from novels by Mennonite writers. All work should be previously unpublished

and should reach us by January 1, 1990. Please include a self-addressed envelope with sufficient postage for return of the manuscript, plus a short biographical note. We are also interested in articles about Mennonite writers such as Sandra Birdsell, Di Brandt, Patrick Friesen, Sarah Klassen, Andreas Schroeder, David Waltner-Toews, Armin Wiebe, Rudy Wiebe, or about the tradition generally. For these, an abstract should be sent by September 1, 1989 with accepted essays completed and to us by December 10, 1989. All material should be sent to: Professor Hildi Froese Tiessen, editor, Special Issue on Canadian Mennonite Writing c/o The New Quarterly, English Language Proficiency Program, The University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ontario, N2L 3G1.

NEWS OF MEMBERS

CECIL A. ABRAHAMS (Brock) has published Alex La Guma (Twayne), Essays in Literature (Raduga), and Critical Essays on Bessie Head (Africa World Press).

JAMES ACHESON (Canterbury, Christchurch, N.Z.) has edited The British and Irish Novel Since 1960, an essay collection forthcoming with Macmillan's. Included in it is his "The Small Worlds of Malcolm Bradbury and David Lodge." Dr. Acheson recently travelled across Canada on a Faculty Enrichment Award.

RICK BOWERS (Alberta) has recently published "Players, Puritans, and 'Theatrical' Propaganda 1642-1660," Dalhousie Review 67 (Winter 1987-88): 463-79. His paper at the 1989 ACUTE Conference in Quebec City, "The Theatre of Neptune (1606): Marc Lescarbot

and the New World Masque," will be published in Canadian Drama.

RACHEL FELDHAY BRENNER (Toronto) had her SSHRCC Post-Doctoral Fellowship renewed; has recently published "Rediscovering the Author in Helen Weinzweig's Basic Black with Pearls," Ariel 20.2 (April, 1989); read "Survival and Rescue in Post-Holocaust Hebrew Literature" at the National Association of Professors of Hebrew Annual Conference held in Chicago and "The Quest for the Holocaust in Canadian Jewish Fiction" before the Comparative Literature Association at the Learned Societies Conference held at Laval University.

ROBERT ALAN BURNS (Guam) has recently published "Isabella Valancy Crawford and her works" in Canadian Writers and their works, vol. 1 (poetry), ed. R. Lecker, J. David & E. Quigley. Toronto: ECW Press, 1988, 21-74. Burns's contribution to CWTW was also published separately as a monograph.

ROBERT CALDER (Saskatchewan) has recently published Willie: The Life of W. Somerset Maugham (London: Heinemann, 1989), which St. Martin's Press will publish in the United States in January. He has been invited to speak at the Wang International Festival of Authors in Toronto in October.

LEN EARLY (York) has recently published "Birney and Purdy: an Intertextual Instance" in Canadian Poetry: Studies, Documents, Reviews 23 (1988).

JEFFERY W. FENN, formerly head, Department of English, Potchefstroom University, Vaal Triangle Campus, Republic of South Africa has accepted a Sabbatical Replacement position in the

Department of Theatre, University of Ottawa, for the year 1989-90.

S. FINN GALLAGHER (Trent) delivered "Bernard Shaw and the Abbey Theatre: Involvement and Legacies" to the 25th Congress of the Australian Universities Language and Literature Association at Macquarie University, Sydney, February 1989, and recently has completed selecting and introducing plays by Hugh Leonard for the Irish Drama Selections series (Colin Smythe/CUA Press).

TANYA GARDINER-SCOTT has published Mervyn Peake: The Evolution of a Dark Romantic in Peter Lang's American University Studies Series IV (English Language and Literature), vol. 105.

MICHAEL GREENSTEIN (Toronto, SCS) has recently published Third Solitudes: Tradition and Discontinuity in Jewish-Canadian Literature (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1989). Also "The Muse and the Messiah: Cynthia Ozick's Aesthetics," Studies in American Jewish Literature 8.1: 50-65.

VICTOR YELVERTON HAINES (Dawson) has received a SSHRCC salary stipend grant Spring 1990 for research on allegory and typology. He has recently published "No Ethics, No Text" in The Journal of Aesthetics and Art Criticism and a poem "Rose" in Queen's Quarterly.

GILLIAN HARDING-RUSSELL has recently been made poetry editor for Event magazine and has poetry publications coming up in The New Quarterly, Zymergy, and The Capilana Review.

A. K. HIEATT (Western) published "The Passing of Arthur in Malory, Spenser, and Shakespeare . . ." in

The Passing of Arthur: New Essays in Arthurian Tradition, ed. C. Baswell and W. Sharpe (Garland, 1988); and "Cymbeline and the Intrusion of Lyric into Romance Narrative: Sonnets, 'A Lover's Complaint,' Spenser's Ruins of Rome" in Unfolded Tales: Essays on Renaissance Romance (festschrift for A. C. Hamilton) ed. George M. Logan and Gordon Teskey (Cornell, 1989).

SARAH LARRATT KEEFER (Trent) spoke on "Hebrew and Hebraicum: the Sefer Tehillim in Eadwine's Canterbury Psalter at the International Society of Anglo-Saxonists' Conference in Durham, England, to be submitted for inclusion in the Conference volume of Anglo-Saxon England, and has the following articles forthcoming: "The Lost Tale of Dylan in the Fourth Branch of the Mabinoqi" in Studia Celtica 23-24 (1988-89); "The Techne of the Kentish Hymn" in Proceedings of the Illinois Medieval Association 6 (1989); and "Portraits in Fiction: Tolkien's Inclusion of Lewis in The Lord of the Rings" in Seven 10 (1989).

KATHLEEN MCCRACKEN (Toronto) has recently published "Masks and Voices: Dramatic Personas in the Poetry of Paul Durcan," Canadian Journal of Irish Studies 13.1 (1987): 107-120, and The Constancy of Objects. Kapuskasing: Penumbra Press, 1980.

HELEN OSTOVICH (Toronto) spoke at the International Conference for 17th-Century Studies, University of Durham, UK, July 4-7, on "A Rudimentary Masque in Jonson's Every Man Out of his Humour (1600)". Recent publications include: "The Reader as Hobbyhorse in Tristram Shandy", Philological Quarterly, summer

1989; and "'Manfrede'?: Reconstruction of a Misprint in Jonson's Every Man Out of his Humour", Notes and Queries, Sept. 1989.

BARBARA PITZ (St. Ambrose) has been appointed Chair of the English Department.

TILOTTAMA RAJAN (Wisconsin) read papers during the past year at Harvard, Chicago, the A.C.L.A., and the M.L.A., as well as at Alberta, Calgary and Western Ontario. She gave the keynote address at a conference on Romanticism at Melbourne Univ., and read papers at four other Australian universities. Articles by her have recently appeared in Studies in Romanticism, Nineteenth-Century Contexts and Southern Review, and her book The Supplement of Reading will be brought out by Cornell Univ. Press next year.

D. M. ROSKIES (Papua, New Guinea) has recently been appointed to a personal Chair in Literature (with special reference to the Third World) in The University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby. His Text/Politics in Island Southeast Asia is forthcoming from Cornell University Press, and a volume on writing in English from the Asia-Pacific region is in preparation.

MALCOLM ROSS (Professor Emeritus, Dalhousie) received honorary doctorates in the Spring of 1989 from Queen's University and The University of Windsor.

KAREN SMYTHE (Toronto) has recently published "Green Water, Green Sky: Gallant's Discourse of Dislocation" in the June issue of Studies in Canadian Literature. She also has an article entitled "The Scene of Seeing: - Perception and Perversion in The Ravishing of

Lol V. Stein" forthcoming in Genders 6 (November).

GLENNIS STEPHENSON (Alberta) has recently published "The Vision Speaks: Love in Lady Geraldine's Courtship," Victorian Poetry 27.1 (1989), "Forsaken Women: The Voice of Frustrated Female Desire," Victorian Review 15.1 (1989), and Elizabeth Barrett Browning and the Poetry of Love (UMI).

LESLIE THOMSON (Toronto) has recently published "Antony and Cleopatra, Act 4 Scene 16: 'A heavy sight'" in Shakespeare Survey 41, and "Broken Brackets and 'Mended Texts': Stage Directions in the Oxford Shakespeare" in Renaissance Drama 19.

TRACY WARE (Bishop's) has three articles forthcoming: "Of Irony and Institutions: Keneally's Three Cheers for the Paraclete" (Australian and New Zealand Studies in Canada); "Bringing 'Gladness out of Sorrow': By the Aurelian Wall" (The Carman Symposium); and "Notes on D.C. Scott's 'Ode for the Keats Centenary'" (Canadian Literature). He will be speaking on Keneally at the MLA.

LISA ZEITZ (Western) has accepted a tenure-track position at the University of Western Ontario. The abstract of an invited paper delivered at the annual meeting of the British Society for the History of Philosophy, U. of Edinburgh, 7-9 April 1988, entitled "Reading for Design: Natural Theology & Narrative Structure in 18th-century English Fiction," was published in the BSHP Newsletter, 4 (January, 1989): 16-18. She has also recently been awarded a John Charles Polanyi Prize for 1989.

September 1989

Personal News and Other Announcements of Interest to ACUTE Members

Using the format of the Newsletter [PERCY SHELLEY (Oxford) has recently published...], in not more than 50 words indicate what you have published recently (preferably books and articles rather than reviews) and any other items that you think would be of interest to the membership.

PLEASE NOTE: Items must be typed, must not exceed 50 words and must be in publishable form (i.e., must not require copy-editing). Items that do not satisfy all of these requirements will not be published. This policy is dictated by the rising costs of publishing the Newsletter, in which much of the space (40-50%) has in recent issues been devoted to "News of Members."

The editor, of course, retains the right to exclude any of the material submitted, even if the three requirements outlined in the preceding paragraphs have been met.

To appear in the December 1989 issue of the Newsletter, items must reach this office by November 15, 1989.

(name and university)

(Please type entry in space provided above.)

Mail to: ACUTE
Department of English
University of Saskatchewan
SASKATOON, Sask., S7N 0W0

ASSOCIATION OF CANADIAN UNIVERSITY TEACHERS OF ENGLISH
MEMBERSHIP FORM 1990

Please return completed form, with cheque payable to ACUTE, Department of English, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, S7N 0W0

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

POSTAL CODE _____

TELEPHONE: (UNIVERSITY) (____) _____ (RESIDENCE) (____) _____

- I enclose [] The regular membership fee of \$65.
[] The reduced fee of \$30.
Status: ___ Graduate Student; ___ Retired Professor
___ Unemployed/Underemployed.
[] The household membership fee of \$115 (includes two memberships, one subscription to English Studies in Canada.) Please indicate both names above.
[] The three-year membership fee of \$175.
[] The three-year household membership fee of \$330.

[___] Check here if you require a receipt other than your cancelled cheque.

ACUTE DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS: (Please check no more than five categories, and list no more than three authors and three other interests.)

General Period: ___ Old English; ___ Middle English; ___ Sixteenth C.;
___ Seventeenth C.; ___ Restoration; ___ Eighteenth C.;
___ Romantic; ___ Victorian; ___ Modern.

American Literature: ___ General; ___ Nineteenth C.; ___ Modern.

Canadian Literature: ___ General; ___ Nineteenth C.; ___ Modern.

Drama: ___ General; ___ Medieval; ___ Sixteenth C.; ___ Seventeenth C.;
___ Eighteenth C.; ___ Nineteenth C.; ___ Modern; ___ American;
___ Canadian.

Fiction: ___ General; ___ Eighteenth C.; ___ Nineteenth C.;
___ Modern; ___ American; ___ Canadian.

Poetry: ___ General; ___ Sixteenth C.; ___ Seventeenth C.;
___ Restoration; ___ Eighteenth C.; ___ Romantic;
___ Victorian; ___ Modern; ___ American; ___ Canadian.

Authors: _____

Other Interests: _____

OTHER INFORMATION: Please indicate if you would be willing to:

- [] Assess papers for the conference. (Area: _____)
[] Moderate a Conference session.